

What is claimed is:

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- 1 1. A method comprising:
2 presenting a user interface;
3 receiving user selection through the user interface pertaining to
4 environment information of a target database system to extract; and
5 receiving the environment information extracted based on the user
6 selection from the target database system.
 - 1 2. ~~The method of claim 1, further comprising importing the environment~~
2 ~~information to a test system.~~
 - 1 3. The method of claim 2, further comprising emulating the target database
2 system in the test system using the imported environment information.
 - 1 4. The method of claim 1, wherein presenting the user interface comprises
2 presenting plural screens each containing at least a graphical user interface element that is
3 user selectable.
 - 1 5. The method of claim 4, wherein presenting the screens comprises
2 presenting a screen containing graphical user interface elements selectable by a user to
3 select, for extraction, one of environment information associated with an entire database
4 in the target database system and environment information associated with tables
5 referenced by a query.
 - 1 6. The method of claim 1, wherein presenting the user interface comprises
2 presenting user-selectable options corresponding to types of environment information to
3 extract from the target database system.
 - 1 7. The method of claim 6, wherein presenting the user-selectable options
2 comprises presenting options corresponding to statistics information and cost parameters.

1 8. The method of claim 7, wherein presenting the user-selectable options
2 comprises presenting a further option corresponding to data relating to definitions of
3 relations.

1 9. The method of claim 8, wherein presenting the user-selectable options
2 comprises presenting a further option corresponding to samples associated with access
3 modules.

1 10. The method of claim 1, further comprising displaying the environment
2 information in the user interface.

1 11. The method of claim 10, wherein presenting the user interface comprises
2 providing a user-selectable element that when activated enables editing of the
3 environment information.

1 12. The method of claim 1, further comprising storing the received
2 environment information in plural files.

1 13. The method of claim 12, wherein presenting a user-selectable element that
2 when activated causes the files to be combined.

1 14. A system comprising:
2 a processor;
3 a display; and
4 software executable on the processor to present a user interface in the
5 display,
6 the user interface comprising user-selectable elements to indicate
7 environment information to export from a target database system.

1 15. The system of claim 14, wherein the software is executable on the
2 processor to export the environment information from the target database system.

1 16. The system of claim 14, wherein the user interface comprises plural
2 screens containing the user-selectable elements.

1 17. The system of claim 16, wherein one of the plural screens contains a first
2 user-selectable element to indicate extraction of environment information associated with
3 a database of the target database system.

1 18. The system of claim 17, wherein another one of the plural screens contains
2 a second user-selectable element to indicate extraction of environment information
3 associated with one or more tables associated with a query in the target database system.

1 19. The system of claim 18, wherein the other one of the plural screens
2 comprises a query selection element to select one or plural queries for which environment
3 information is to be extracted.

1 20. The system of claim 19, wherein the query selection element enables
2 selection of the one or plural queries from a file.

1 21. The system of claim 19, wherein the query selection element enables
2 selection of the one or more plural queries from a query capture database.

1 22. The system of claim 14, wherein the user-selectable elements indicate one
2 or more types of the environment information to export.

1 23. The system of claim 22, wherein the one or more types of the environment
2 information comprises one or more of the following: statistics information, cost
3 information, information pertaining to definition of relations, and samples of data
4 demographics of access modules in the target database system.

1 24. The system of claim 14, wherein the user-selectable elements comprise an
2 element to enable editing of the environment information.

1 25. The system of claim 24, wherein the user-selectable elements further
2 comprise another element to undo editing of the environment information.

1 26. The system of claim 24, wherein the software is executable to display the
2 environment information in the display.

1 27. The system of claim 14, wherein the software is executable to export the
2 environment information from the target database system and subsequently to import the
3 environment information to a test system.

1 28. An article comprising at least one storage medium containing instructions
2 that when executed cause a system to:
3 present a user interface;
4 receive user selection made in the user interface indicating environment
5 information to extract from a target database system; and
6 receive the environment information extracted based on the user selection
7 from the target database system.

1 29. The article of claim 28, wherein the instructions when executed cause the
2 system to import the environment information to a test system.

1 30. The article of claim 28, wherein the instructions when executed cause the
2 system to present the user interface by presenting plural screens having user-selectable
3 elements.

1 31. The article of claim 30, wherein the instructions when executed cause the
2 system to receive activation of the user-selectable elements to select types of environment
3 information to extract.

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